GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2062
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
PROBLEMS OF RUBBER PLANTERS IN KERALA
RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK;SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the rubber planters in Kerala are facing crisis with declining prices and surplus production and are unable to recover even cost of production; (

(b) whether under the compelled circumstances these planters are shifting to other crops; and (

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) : Due to decline in the consumption of Natural Rubber and recession in the consuming industry, the rubber growers are not getting the price for Natural Rubber which they were getting 2-3 years before. The price of Natural Rubber moves in tandem with international prices. However, most of the time the domestic prices of Natural Rubber are higher than the international prices. Presently the price of Natural Rubber in the domestic market is ruling around Rs. 34 per kg.

(b) : No instance of shifting from rubber to other crops, due to decline in the prices of rubber, has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) : Does not arise.